


REMARKS

Claims 5-16 are pending. The Examiner is thanked for indicating that claims 5-16 are allowed.

The Examiner has acknowledged Applicant's priority claim to Japanese Patent Application No. JP 2000-224644, filed July 25, 2000. *See* Office Action mailed December 6, 2004 at p. 1 (Office Action Summary). To perfect this claim of priority, a certified English translation of the Japanese priority document is submitted concurrently herewith.

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Respectfully submitted,

By 

Dianna Goldenson

Registration No.: 52,949

DARBY & DARBY P.C.

P.O. Box 5257

New York, New York 10150-5257

(212) 527-7700

(212) 527-7701 (Fax)

Attorneys/Agents For Applicant